AN ACT in relation to public employee benefits.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:
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Section 5. The Illinois Pension Code is amended by changing Section 6-222 as follows:
(40 ILCS 5/6-222) (from Ch. 108 1/2, par. 6-222)
Sec. 6-222. Administrative review.
(a) The provisions of the Administrative Review Law, and all amendments and modifications thereof and the rules adopted pursuant thereto shall apply to and govern all proceedings for the judicial review of final administrative decisions of the retirement board hereunder. The term "administrative decision" is as defined in Section 3-101 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
(b) If any fireman whose application for either a duty disability benefit under Section 6-151 or for an occupational disease disability benefit under Section $6-151.1$ has been denied by the Retirement Board brings an action for administrative review challenging the denial of disability benefits and the fireman prevails in the action in administrative review, then the prevailing fireman shall be entitled to recover from the Fund court costs and litigation expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, as part of the costs of the action. (Source: P.A. 82-783.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.

